the State of Andhra Pradesh' with an estimated outlay of Euro 45 million (approx. Rs. 225 crores) for assistance under Dutch ORET programme was received from the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh in June, 2003.

(c) The proposal has been examined in consultation with the Directorate General of Health Services and additional information has been asked from the State Government on 30th July, 2003.

Sale of Physician Samples in Markets

†2274. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:
SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the medicines labelled as 'Physician sample not to be sold' are being sold on a large scale in the open market involving trade of lakhs of rupees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have formulated any plan to deal strictly with the people involved in such trade; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A RAJA): (a) to (d) The Government is not aware of any reports of large scale sale of physician samples in the open market. The Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945, do not permit sale or stocking on the premises of chemists and druggists, of drugs intended for distribution to the practitioners of the medical profession as free samples and labelled as 'Physician Samples- not to be sold'. Violation of this provision is a contravention of the conditions of sale licence granted by the State Licencing Authority and is a punishable offence.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi